

## Message Text

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TO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ANAKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

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AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

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AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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TAGS:

SUBJ: MEDIA REACTIONS TO NATO MEETING

1. WEST BERLIN COVERAGE: ALL MAJOR DAILIES TOPPED THE WINDUP OF THE NATO MEETING UNDER SUCH HEADLINES AS "NATO COMMUNIQUE DEMANDS FULL APPLICATION OF BERLIN AGREEMENT, EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER ATTEMPTED RESTRICTION OF WEST BERLIN'S REPRESENTATION ABROAD BY FRG" (INDEP DER TAGESSPIEGEL); "WARNING TO THE EAST: NO NEW ARMS RACE - NATO GUARANTEES BERLIN'S SECURITY" (INDEP BERLINER MORGEN POST); "NATO WARNS ARMS RACE ASSUMES DANGEROUS DIMENSIONS" (PRO-SPD SPANDAUER VOLKSBLATT). THE PAPERS AMPLY QUOTED THE COMMUNIQUE WITH EMPHASIS ON THE DEVELOPMENTS OF BERLIN AND

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GERMANY AS A WHOLE, THE NATO PARTNER'S RESOLVE TO MAINTAIN A

STRONG DEFENSE, AND THEIR WARNING AGAINST A NEW ARMAMENT RACE. TABLOIDS B.Z. AND BILDZEITUNG NOTED THE COMMUNIQUE VERY BRIEFLY.

2. WEST BERLIN COMMENT: INDEP DER TAGESSPIEGEL NOTED THAT THE NATO PARTNERS HAVE FOR THE FIRST TIME EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE ATTEMPTS OF CERTAIN COUNTRIES TO RESTRICT THE FRG'S RIGHT TO REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF THE THREE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN ABROAD...

"INDIVIDUAL CASES HAVE TO BE JUDGED DIFFERENTLY, ACCORDING TO WHICH COUNTRY MAKES THE ATTEMPT. WHEN IT IS THE SOVIET UNION, IT IS A CLEARCUT VIOLATION OF THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT, FOR THE SOVIET UNION HAS EXPLICITLY AGREED TO THE POLITICAL REPRESENTATION OF THE THREE WESTERN SECTORS ABROAD BELOW THE THRESHOLD OF MATTERS OF SECURITY AND STATUS. THIS AGREEMENT, MOREOVER, HAD BEEN THE PREREQUISITE TO PERMITTING THE SOVIET UNION THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CONSULATE GENERAL IN THE WESTERN SECTORS. OTHER EAST BLOC COUNTRIES ARE NOT AUTOMATICALLY COMMITTED TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT, BUT, BY THEIR RESTRICTION OF THE FRG'S AUTHORITY TO REPRESENT WEST BERLIN ABROAD, INTERFERE WITH AN INTERNATIONAL RIGHT WHICH HAS BEEN VESTED IN THE FRG BY THE POWERS SOLELY RESPONSIBLE (FOR WEST BERLIN -- AN INTERFERENCE THEY WOULD NOT HAVE TO TOLERATE IN THE REVERSE CASE. SO THE FRG IS AUTHORIZED TO RESORT TO DIVERSE SAUCTIONS.

"IT IS EVIDENT THAT SUCH A STATE OF AFFAIRS HAS NOT HAD THE SEDATING EFFECT WHICH THE POWERS HAD EXPECTED IN THE INTEREST OF EUROPEAN SECURITY. THE NATO COMMUNIQUE MAKES IT CLEAR THAT THE ALLIED POWERS SEE THE LARGEST DEFICIT IN THE QUESTION OF BERLIN'S REPRESENTATION ABROAD BY THE FRG AND ARE GIVING IT PRIORITY OVER OTHER INTERPRETATIVE DISPUTES.

INDEP BERLINER MORGENPOST WROTE THAT NATO HAS "AFFIRMED ITS COMMITMENT TO BERLIN IN A GRATIFYING MANNER, BUT IN ANOTHER RESPECT COULD NOT ACHIEVE A CLEAR ATTITUDE.

"AS A CONSEQUENCE OF ITS ENORMOUS ARMAMENT, THE USSR IS IN A POSITION TO UNDERTAKE WORLD-WIDE MILITARY OPERATIONS. EVEN IF THE IMMEDIATE DEFENSE AREA OF NATO SEEMS TO BE SECURED, THE ATLANTIC PACT HAS NO CONCEPT TO COUNTER SOVIET ACTIONS OUTSIDE OF THAT AREA. THE MERE REFERENCE TO THE WIDELY UNPROTECTED MARITIME SUPPLY LINES FOR PETROLEUM UNDCATES WHAT

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DANGER HAS ARISEN FOR THE WEST FROM MOSCOW'S GLOBAL CAPACITY.'

"IN THE PAST PERIOD OF DREAMING OF DETENTE, THE NATO POLITICIANS HAD PREFERRED TO TURN THEIR EYES AWAY FROM THIS UNPLEASANT AND INCONVENIENT REALITY. YET AFTER THE ANGOLA WARNING THE PROBLEM WAS DISCUSSED IN OSLO. THE HARD NECESSITY WILL FORCE NATO NOT TO CONTENT ITSELF WITH DISCUSSIONS. MOSCOW'S BEHAVIOR HAS GIVEN THE EAST-WEST CONFLICT A GLOBE-EMBRACING CHARACTER."

PRO-SPD SPANDAUER VOLKSBLATT WONDER WHETHER IN SPITE OF THE WILL FOR SOLIDARITY AND STRENGTH DEMONSTRATED SO CONSPICUOUSLY IN OSLO, "THERE HAS NOT SPREAD A DETRAIN DEFENSE WEARINESS PROMOTED BY THE CONSTANT SQUABBLES AMONG THE PARTNERS ON THE SOUTHEASTERN FLANK AND LATELY ALSO IN THE NORTHWEST OF EUROPE BETWEEN BRITAIN AND ICELAND. IT WAS NOT WITHOUT REASON THAT FRG FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER SPOKE OF THE NECESSARY 'MILITARY AND POLITICAL REVITALIZATION' OF THE ALLIANCE.

"SURELY GENSCHER ALSO THOUGHT OF THE UNRESOLVED PROBLEM OF ITALY...AND YET THE PROBLEM OF ITALY AFTER THE ELECTIONS IS NO CAUSE FOR ALARM AS LONG AS THE ALLIANCE AS SUCH CONSTITUTES A STABLE FACTOR. IN CASE OF A BADLY WEAKENED NATO, HOWEVER, THE ITALIAN AFFAIR MIGHT CONTRIBUTE TO A KIND OF PERMANENT ILLNESS WHICH WOULD NOT BE CURABLE IN THE LONG RUN.

"FROM THIS ANGLE, THE REPEATED AMERICAN CALLS EXHORTING THE EUROPEANS TO INTENSIFY THEIR EFFORTS ASSUME MORE IMPORTANCE AND IT BECOMES CLEARER THAT THE UNANIMITY DISPLAYED IN OSLO WILL LAST ONLY IF THE NICE WORDS IF THE EUROPEANS ARE FOLLOWED BY DEEDS. OTHERWISE, THEY MIGHT EASILY BE SUSPECTED OF RESPECTING THE POLITICAL PART OF THE NATO CONCEPT -- NAMELY DETENTE --, BUT REGARDING THE MORE EXPENSIVE CREDIBLE DETERRENT OF MILITARY STRENGTH AS MERE AMMUNITION FOR ELECTION CAMPAIGNS." TABLOID B.Z.M CALLED IT GRATIFYING THAT "THE NATO FOREIGN MINISTERS IN OSLO HAVE MADE IT CLEAR THAT BERLIN'S TIES WITH THE FRG MUST NO LONGER BE RESTRICTED AND PUT IN QUESTION. THEY DID NOT DROP MER HINTS BUT RAISED THIS DEMAND OFFICIALLY".

3. EAST BERLIN PRESS: COMMUNIST NEUES DEUTSCHLAND AND BERLINER ZEITUNG REPORTED THE CONCLUSION OF THE OSLO MEETING WITHOUT COMMENT. THEIR REPORTS STRESSED NATO DETERMINATION TO MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE THE STRIKING POWER OF ITS ARMED FORCES. THEY SAID  
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SEC GEN LUNS HAS PUT THE ACCENT ON THE NECESSITY OF "CONTINUING THE ARMS RACE." ALL NATO MEMBERS WERE INVITED TO BE "ALWAYS PREPARED TO MAKE THE NECESSARY ECONOMIC SACRIFICES." REGARDING MFBR, THE PAPERS SAID, NATO CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE PRINCIPLES OF A SYMMETRICAL REDUCTION.

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4. WEST GERMAN TV:

NATO & KISSINGER SPECIAL

ALL NEWSCASTS LEAD WITH THE NATO SPRING MEETING IN OSLO AND THE "DEUTSCHLANDTREFFEN" OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE US, GREAT BRITAIN, FRANCE AND WEST GERMANY. IN ADDITION CHANNEL TWO AIRED A 15 MINUTE NATO SPECIAL FROM OSLO AT TV PRIME TIME. THE WEEKLY POLITICAL MAGAZINES EACH DEVOTED OF PART THEIR TIME TO NATO-RELATED TOPICS. CHANNEL TWO'S "AUSLANDSJOURNAL" CARRIED A REPORT ON THE NORWEGIAN ARCTIC ISLAND GROUP SPITSBERGEN AND CHANNEL ONE'S "BERICHT AUS BONN" A FEATURE ON NATO'S "MODEL PARTNER" WEST GERMANY AND ITS "BUNDESWEHR."

QUOTES FROM THE JOINT FINAL COMMUNIQUE INTRODUCED EACH UNCLASSIFIED

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OF THE NEWSCASTS. IT WAS REPORTED THAT THE ITALIAN QUESTION WAS NOT MENTIONED AND THAT NATO MEMBERS EMPHASIZED THE RIGHT OF THE FRG TO REPRESENT WEST BERLIN IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS. IN AN INTERVIEW WITH CHANNEL ONE'S MARTIN SCHULZE

KISSINGER ANSWERED IN GERMAN;"WE FEEL THAT WE CAN MAINTAIN THE EQUILIBRIUM IN MILITARY TERMS AND THAT WE CAN FIND WAYS OF PREVENTING THE SOVIETS FROM USING MILITARY MEANS TO REACH POLITICAL AIMS...THE BALANCE EXISTS NOW AND WE HAVE TO MAKE GREATER EFFORTS TO KEEP IT IN THE NEXT TEN YEARS, AND WE WILL DO IT." (EARLY NEWS)

IN THE LATE NEWS SCHULZE COMMENTED ON THE MOST IMPORTANT FOREIGN NEWS ITEMS; " FOR THE FIRST TIME ALL NATO MEMBERS AGREED WITH THE ANALYSIS THAT THE WARSAW PACT'S ARMAMENT EXCEED ITS SECURITY NEEDS BY FAR. WHILE, A YEAR AGO, SOME NATO COUNTRIES PLEADED FOR CUT-BACKS IN DEFENSE BUDGETS, THESE VOICES HAVE BECOME SILENT NOW. DISAPPOINTMENT OVER SET-BACK WITH DETENTE AND THE STAND-STILL AT THE VIENNA DISARMAMENT TALKS HAVE HAD A SOBERING EFFECT RATHER THAN ONE OF DECLINING RESISTENCE."

WITH RESPECT TO NATO'S RESOLVE TO MAINTAIN AND, IF NECESSARY, TO INCREASE ITS MILITARY STRENGTH, SCHULZE REMARKED:::: "THEY DID NOT DISCUSS, HOWEVER, WHERE THE MONEY IS TO BE TAKEN FROM. SCHULZE THEN QUOTED BRIEFLY FROM KISSINGER'S PRESS CONFERENCE.

CHANNEL TWO' HORST SCHAETTLER COMMENTED: "THE SUM TOTAL IS: THE ALLIANCE HAS BECOME MORE REALISTIC, MORE REALISTIC IN THE EVALUATION OF ITS INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL PROBLEMS. THE OFT USED TERM DETENTE WAS REDUCED TO ITS ESSENTIAL MEANING, NAMELY REDUCTION AND AVOIDANCE OF CONFLICT. ..MOREOVER, THE ALLIANCE MADE IT CLEAR THAT A GOOD PART OF THE AIMS LAID DOWN IN THE CSCE DOCUMENT HAS NOT YET BEEN REALIZED. IN CONNECTION WITH BERLIN EVEN THE TERM 'CONCERN' WAS USED.

"NATO ALSO DISCUSSED WITH FRANKNESS PROBLEMS WHICH DO NOT DIRECTLY AFFECT THE ALLIANCE BUT WHICH CAN IMPAIR THE GLOBAL MILITARY BALANCE. CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA HENRY KISSINGER WARNED AGAINST A SECOND ANGOLA. FRANKNESS SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN A REMARKABLE CHARACTER- UNCLASSIFIED

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ISTIC OF THIS MEETING. AGAIN IT WAS KISSINGER WHO TOUCHED ON THE ITALIAN PROBLEM, IF ONLY BRIEFLY, DURING THE COUNCIL'S SESSION...IF WORST COMES TO WORST AMERICA SEEMS TO HAVE MADE PREPARATION. THE AMERICANS ARE DISCUSSING PLANS FOR MOVING MILITARY INSTALLATIONS FROM ITALY TO SPAIN. ONE MIGHT VIEW SUCH PLANS WITH SCEPTICISM, THOUGH, FOR AMERICA WAS WRONG ONCE BEFORE IN EVALUATING A POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT. MAYBE NATO DOES DOE ABOUND IN INTERNAL STRENGTH RIGHT NOW BUT OSLO HAS AGAIN PROVED THAT THIS ALLIANCE FACES THE PROBLEMS OF OUR DAY, A FACT THAT WILL NOT BE LOST ON THE SOVIET UNION."

CHANNEL TWO'S NATO SPECIAL OPEND WITH LOTHAR RUEHL'S  
REMARK, GIVEN AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF THE OPENING CEREMONY,  
THAT "THE CONPACT SEATING OF THE ALLIED MINISTERS IS  
CERTAINLY NOT REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE CURRENT STATE OF THE  
ALLIANCE." RUEHL AND HSIS COLLEAGUE BE ND NIELSEN-STOKKEBY  
QUOTED FROM LUN'S OPENING SPEECH, CITED FROM A HOSTILE  
PRAVDA ARTICLE, AND ENUMERATED SOME OF THE PROBLEMS  
FACING NATO, IN PARTICULAR ITALY AND ICELAND. RUEHL WENT ON:  
"IN NORWAY, TOO, THERE ARE DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST NATO. THE  
EXTREME LEFT DEMANDS NORWAY'S WITHDRAWAL FROM NATO. BUT TODAY MORE  
THAN EVER BEFORE NORWAY IS AWARE OF THE DANGER UP IN THE  
NORTH THE LARGE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE EXPECT SUPPORT  
FROM THE WEST." (AVAILABLE ON VIDEO)

"AUSLANDSJOURNAL" CORRESPONDENT HANS-JOACHIM  
KOERTZ REPORTED FROM SPITSBERGEN THAT NORWAY NOW SEEMS TO  
BE WILLING TO MAKE MORE USE OF ITS OVEREIGN RIGHTS IN THIS  
ISLAND GROUP WHICH IS DEMILITARIZED ACCORDING TO THE TREATY  
OF 1920, TO WHICH THERE ARE 39 SIGNATORY POWERS AMONG THEM  
THE UNITED STATES AND THE SOVIET UNION. IN VIEW OF POSSIBLE  
OIL FINDS "THE AMERICANS HAVE UNOFFICIALLY INDICATED THEIR  
INTEREST...SO FAR ONE HAD TO COME TO AN UNDERSTANDING  
ONLY WITH THE RUSSIANS...ALL PARTIES IN THE NORWEGIAN  
PARLIAMENT NOW REALIZE THAT THEY HAVE NEGLECTED THE  
PROBLEM OF SPITZBERGEN FOR DECADES. WHEN THE NEARBY SOVIET  
MILITARY MENANCE AT THE NORTHERN BORDER BECAME MORE AND  
MORE OBVIOUS THE DOZING NORWEGIANS WOKE. TODAY THEY ARE  
PREPARED TO MAKE WHATEVER SACRIFICE IS  
NEED TO HAVE THE NORWEGIAN FLAY FLY OVER SPITSBERGEN."  
(AVAILABLE ON VIDEO. TUOHEY  
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